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REPORT

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The following is a summary of information on Soviet and East German military activities, received prior to 25 April 1955:

A. Soviet Activities:

1. General:

On 15 April, most Soviet units were still stationed at their posts. More T-54 tanks arrived, and tank divisions handed T-34 tanks over to mechanized and rifle divisions.

2. Third Guards Mechanized Army:

Between 5 and 8 April, seven shipments [redacted] went from Meinsdorf to Justerbog; six tank shipments were detained at Meinsdorf between 5 and 8 April.

3. Fourth Guards Mechanized Army:

Two shipments with units of the 25th Tank Division returned from Templin to Prenzlau on 16 April. On 10 and 15 April, two tank details of the 10th Guards Tank Division, equipped with T-54's, returned from Letsling Heath. A tank detail, presumably of the 7th Guards Mechanized Division in East Berlin, stayed in Templin from 10 to 17 April.

4. Eighth Guards Army:

In early April, the former Buchenwald concentration camp near Weimar was vacated by the Army engineer battalion and reoccupied by a KVP unit. Until 10 April, a battalion-strength tank unit was observed in a tent camp at Forst Zeitz. A detail of the 57th Guards Rifle Division, including 50 soldiers, four trucks and billeting equipment, arrived at Kindel from Weissenfels on 13 April.

5. First Guards Mechanized Army:

On 17 April, details arrived at Schmorkau and Schwepnitz and at the Koenigsbrueck summer camp for reconditioning work.

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6. Fourth Artillery Corps:

By 15 April, the 124th Heavy Howitzer Brigade had turned over to other artillery units approximately 60 prime movers. On 15 April, two shipments with anti-aircraft artillery elements went from Frankfurt/Oder to Wustrow, and two similar shipments from Chemnitz to Wustrow. Elements of the 65th Mortar Brigade were detained at Rathenow on 19 April.

7. Tanks:

By 17 April, the arrival of about 655 T-54's had been observed. Between 22 and 28 March, the 7th Guards Tank Division detached T-34 tanks to Cottbus, Luebben, Jueterbog and Ohdruf. Between 8 March and 16 April, the 10th Guards Tank Division sent about 90 T-34 tanks to posts of the 7th Guards Mechanized Division, nine more to Stendal, and nine to Jaevenitz.

B. East German Activities:

1. General:

The KVP discharges and arrivals of recruits stopped. New units appeared to be activated. Close-order drill was held in the barracks areas.

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2. KVP Units:

Between 4 and 9 April, about 100 new trucks arrived at the Ferchels-Mahlitz camp near Kietz. The occupation strength of the Premnitz Kaserne allegedly exceeded the plausible strength of the mortar regiment listed there.

3. Miscellaneous Units:

Intensified recruiting movements include those for the border police. With the arrival of about 700 men in mid-April, the regiment attached to the Ministry for State Security grew to a strength of more than 3,000 men. A parade of armed labor combat groups was scheduled for 1 May.

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